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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, October 18, 1824, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Washington October 18. 1824<

Dear Sir

General La Fayette left this for York, on Saturday and is I presume now near his port of destination. Whether he will proceed thence by Richmond to your house or directly to Charlestown & Savannah, & return by your residence, he had not decided, when he left us. Time, has produced less waster of his form, since you last saw him, than it does on most men, and none on his mind. His mov'ment since his arrival in the UStates has been well directed. Had he visited this city in the first instance, the compromitment of the govt. with the holy alliance would have been much greater, than by going directly to our fellow citizens, & from them to the govt. By this course the nation has the credit. The holy alliance & all the govts. of Europe must therefore look to us, as an united people, devoted to the principles of our revolution & of free republican government. My hope is, that the nation will provide for him, in a way to put him at ease, the remainder of his days, and to indemnify his family for the losses which the principles which he imbibed in our great struggle & of which he has been the victim subjected them to.

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It is my earnest desire to visit Albemarle, & to pass a day with you and one with Mr. Madison,

before the commenc'ment of the Session. If I do, it must be soon, as I must be back, early in the next month, to prepare for that event. My present impression is, that I will go, & set out in the course of this week.

All our accounts from Russian are favorable. The treaty lately concluded, respecting the No. West coast, & the Pacific is, I think, all that we could have asked.

With great respect & regard I am dear Sir your friend James Monroe

RC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).